

US008945368B2

# (12) United States Patent

# Rieke et al.

# (54) SEPARATION AND/OR SEQUESTRATION APPARATUS AND METHODS

(71) Applicant: Battelle Memorial Institute, Richland,

WA (US)

(72) Inventors: Peter C. Rieke, Richland, WA (US);

Silas A. Towne, Richland, WA (US); Greg W. Coffey, Richland, WA (US); Aaron M. Appel, Richland, WA (US)

(73) Assignee: Battelle Memorial Institute, Richland,

WA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 13/748,463

(22) Filed: Jan. 23, 2013

(65) **Prior Publication Data** 

US 2013/0186775 A1 Jul. 25, 2013

### Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 61/589,704, filed on Jan. 23, 2012.
- (51) **Int. Cl.**

**B01D 19/00** (2006.01) **B01D 53/96** (2006.01)

(Continued)

(52) U.S. Cl.

CPC ....... **B01D 19/0073** (2013.01); **B01D 53/1425** (2013.01); **B01D 53/1475** (2013.01); **B01D** 53/965 (2013.01); **Y02C 10/06** (2013.01)

USPC ....... **205/555**; 204/234; 204/275.1; 205/349

(58) Field of Classification Search

CPC ............ B01D 19/0073; B01D 19/0084; B01D 53/1475; B01D 53/965; B01D 2257/504; B01D 53/326

See application file for complete search history.

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(10) **Patent No.:** 

(56)

(45) Date of Patent:

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Feb. 3, 2015

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Primary Examiner — Keith Hendricks
Assistant Examiner — Steven A. Friday
(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Wells St. John P.S.

### (57) ABSTRACT

Apparatus for separating CO<sub>2</sub> from an electrolyte solution are provided. Example apparatus can include: a vessel defining an interior volume and configured to house an electrolyte solution; an input conduit in fluid communication with the interior volume; an output conduit in fluid communication with the interior volume; an exhaust conduit in fluid communication with the interior volume; and an anode located within the interior volume. Other example apparatus can include: an elongated vessel having two regions; an input conduit extending outwardly from the one region; an output conduit extending outwardly from the other region; an exhaust conduit in fluid communication with the one region; and an anode located within the one region. Methods for separating CO<sub>2</sub> from an electrolyte solution are provided. Example methods can include: providing a CO<sub>2</sub> rich electrolyte solution to a vessel containing an anode; and distributing hydrogen from the anode to acidify the electrolyte solution.

### 18 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

